

September Newsletter

Welcome to Lake Harriet UM Preschool!



Welcome! What an exciting time!

Lake Harriet UM Preschool has been educating young children in the community for over 70 years and we welcome you to a year of learning, new experiences, and good fun!

Each month, an all-school newsletter and school snack & lunch menu will be posted on the preschool website and shared with you. A monthly update email will come from the preschool notifying you that the website has been updated with your child's classroom information. Communications between the home and preschool are extremely important to us! Please let us know if you are having trouble receiving the information you need. We welcome your feedback!



brightwheel



daily check in & reports



photos



messaging

Family Handbook

Our family handbook contains important information for all families. The handbook can be downloaded from our website and has been shared with you via brightwheel.

The Family Handbook addresses school policies. These policies have been developed in accordance with our state license. They are reviewed annually by our health consultant and MN Department of Human Services (DHS).

Policy areas in the Handbook include Philosophy & Goals, Program Plan, BehaviorGuidance, Communication, Confidentiality, Grievances, Health & Safety, Illness, Maltreatment, Medications, and Special Needs.

“Play is often talked about as if it were a relief from serious learning. But for children play is serious learning. Play is really the work of childhood.” Fred Rogers

Drop off and pick up procedures

For the safety of the children please park in the parking lot when dropping off and picking up your child(ren). Automobiles are not to idle when parking to drop off and pick up. It is very important to drive slowly and always pay close attention to children.

Drop Off

The driver must bring all children into school. Children should not be left in the car, classroom, or hallway unattended. Please check your child in using the brightwheel app upon arrival each day. **Your child MUST be checked in before you leave the premises.** There are QR codes located by each classroom door, entry & playground doors.

Pick Up

Pick up is either in the classroom or on the playground. All preschoolers enrolled in part-time, 9-12:30pm, M-Th preschool get picked up on the playground. Caregivers are to connect with their child's teacher, collect their preschool bag, and check out using the brightwheel app. **Your child MUST be checked out when you leave the premises.** Families are welcome to stay and play under your supervision. Children enrolled in longer day programming will generally be picked up in the classroom. If they are in an alternate location, you will be messaged in brightwheel where to pick up (ie. the playground).

Large Motor Activity

All children will have multiple opportunities to move their bodies throughout the school day, whether it is in the classroom, large motor room, or out on the playground.

The toddlers will have a designated large motor room to play in during the day and have playground time when just toddlers are out at play. Children are supervised by their classroom teachers.

The preschoolers will have time in the large muscle room each day. Mrs. Taylor & Mrs. J will be teaching the preschoolers how to play safely using the equipment both inside and out. She will also facilitate social and emotional development as the children play and interact with one another. Problem solving skills, turn taking, etc. Additionally, she will introduce your preschoolers to novel activities and vocabulary.

General playground and muscle room guidelines:

- Children are under the supervision of the preschool staff - **all children must be within sight and sound of the teacher at all times**
- Shoes must be always worn. Please send your child in shoes that appropriate to play in - no flip flops, heeled shoes, cowboy boots, etc.
- Please send your child with the appropriate outdoor clothing and label outerwear. If you are sending your child to school in rain or winter boots, please remember to send indoor shoes, too.
- Children are to slide down slides with their feet first.
- Toys should remain in their designated areas: sand toys in sand box, big trucks in the mulch, balls on grass, trikes on sidewalk

Contact us

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments, please share them with us. If you use the messaging option through brightwheel, messages quickly reach us and will automatically notify both your teacher and the Director. If you have something more detailed to discuss, please email, call or talk with us at school.

Preschool Bags

Please have your child bring their preschool bag to school each day and check it daily for information in their home/school plastic envelope - teachers will mainly use this to send home art projects and materials in the preschool bag.

Please make sure your child's name is on the bag and feel free to personalize and make it their own!



